News Release



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The beginning of a good wildflower season

Thousands of Poppies in Bloom at the Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve

LANCASTER – "It is spectacular!" "It is absolutely gorgeous." "The bloom is hitting a bit early this year and it is one of the best we've seen." "We are being over-run with visitors who have been waiting for this kind of bloom for years."

That is just a sampling of the kind of comments coming from the visitors and staff who are now reporting that poppies are already in bloom at the Antelope Valley California Poppy Reserve. Thanks to favorable weather, an early season of thousands of blooming poppies is happening at this popular California State Park - with many more to come.

This Saturday will be the opening of the park's visitor center, which will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays during the poppy season. Park staff is looking forward to more rain that will extend the poppy season.

For more information, call the information line at (661) 724-1180 or visit the park's webpage at www.parks.ca.gov

On April 6th there will be a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the naming of the poppy as the California State Flower.

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